

Overview

The purpose of this lesson is to introduce the idea of immigration, which is basic knowledge needed to study history and geography at more advanced levels. The students will read a story about a Croatian immigrant community in Kansas. They will answer basic questions that will aid in the understanding of this concept, and they will write a caption for an illustration that includes feelings and thoughts about the topic. The lesson is divided into two parts with the possibility of an extended activity but can be adjusted to meet individual classroom needs.

Standards

History:

Benchmark 2, Indicator 2: The student defines immigration and gives past and present examples from Kansas.

Reading:

Benchmark 4, Indicator 5: The student uses illustrations, text, and prior knowledge to make inferences and draw conclusions.

Writing:

Benchmark 2, Indicator 12: The student writes feelings and thoughts about the topic with the purpose of informing the reader. (Voice: prewriting, drafting, revising: N,E,T)

Objectives

Content:

- The student will define "immigration."
- The student will be able to give one reason why someone would immigrate to a new country.

Skills:

- The student will draw conclusions using text and illustrations.
- The student will write a caption.

Essential Questions

- Why do people move from place to place?
- What does it feel like to immigrate?



Activities

This activity uses the following *Read Kansas* card:

- ***Marijana's Story***

Day 1

1. Write the word "immigration" on the board and discuss its meaning.
2. As a class read the **Marijana's Story** *Read Kansas* card. Use the illustrations to further discuss the story.
3. Ask students to describe "immigration" in relationship to the story.

Day 2

1. Have the students work in pairs. Ask the students to read the **Marijana's Story** *Read Kansas* card to each other.
2. Still working in pairs, have each student fill out the first five questions on the worksheet. Working in pairs they can discuss the questions and determine the answers together. Discuss the answers as a class.
3. Discuss the picture on the worksheet and what it might mean. Have each student individually write a caption for the painting. In preparation, ask them how they think it might feel to immigrate to a new country.

Extended Activity

1. Ask someone in your community who has immigrated to the United States recently to speak to your class. In preparation have the students discuss questions they may want to ask the new immigrant.

Assessment

1. Observe the students' ability to discuss the meaning of "immigration."
2. Evaluate the students' ability to successfully complete the worksheet.

For the Teacher

Immigration can be defined as moving from one country to another with the intent of permanent relocation. This means it is different than visiting another place. Immigration is an important part of American history and current events. The United States is a country of immigrants and continues to struggle with both the positives and the challenges of this.

Marijana is pronounced *Ma-ree-ana*. She is an accomplished artist from Kansas City, Kansas. Her paintings have been exhibited throughout the United States. The area known as Strawberry Hill lies on the bluffs overlooking the confluence of the Kansas and Missouri rivers. Croatian immigrants settled there in the late nineteenth century to seek greater opportunities. Most went to work in the meatpacking plants.

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Resources for this lesson are from:

- Kansas State Historical Society collections
- Marijana Grisnik

Name: _____

Marijana's Story

Immigration: to move from one country to another country

Who immigrated? _____

Why did Marijana's grandparents immigrate? _____

Where did they immigrate from? _____

Where did they immigrate to? _____

What does immigration mean? _____

Write a caption for this picture telling how the woman feels about immigrating to a new country.

